

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT  
LAND ACQUISITION AND PROTECTION PROGRAM

**FISCAL YEAR 2001 ANNUAL REPORT**

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## Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Jane M. Swift, Governor

Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

Bob Durand, Secretary

Department of Environmental Management

Peter C. Webber, Commissioner

Division of Administrative Services

Peter Scavotto, Deputy Commissioner

Division of Forest and Parks

Todd Frederick, Director

Division of Resource Conservation

Susan Frechette, Deputy Commissioner

Office of Legal Services

Mary Griffin, Chief

## A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER



*Dear Friends:*

Fiscal Year 2001 (July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001) was a truly exceptional year for the Department of Environmental Management's Land Acquisition and Protection Program. With the help of many partners along the way, DEM protected 52 remarkable properties for a total of nearly 11,000 acres. Never before has DEM completed so many projects in one fiscal year. Nineteen of the properties are part of the Tully Valley Private Forest Lands Initiative in the North Quabbin area of central Massachusetts. This ambitious effort resulted in the protection of 2,260 acres of land in the region and conserved one of the largest contiguous tracts of forest land in southern New England.

In August 2001, Governor Jane M. Swift announced the Administration's accomplishment of having protected more than 100,000 acres of open space in less than three years. This brings the Commonwealth closer to its ultimate goal of 200,000 acres preserved by the year 2010. This tremendous achievement was made possible through the hard work and dedication of DEM's land protection staff as well as the land staff of other state and federal agencies, municipalities and non-profit land trusts. Working together, these organizations reached the 100,000-acre milestone two years ahead of schedule, including protecting a record 42,000 acres in fiscal year 2001 alone.

Many thanks to all of our partners for helping us reach our goals. The hard work and dedication of our staff coupled with your support will help to ensure that the natural resources of the Commonwealth remain protected for generations to come. I would like to urge everyone to go out and experience firsthand the beauty and uniqueness of each of these properties.

I also invite you to join us as we continue to protect valuable properties throughout the state. Your contribution to DEM's Conservation Trust will help us to acquire additional land and provide funds needed for the perpetual care and stewardship of these valuable assets. Please see page 20 for more information on the Conservation Trust.

In the coming year, DEM will initiate a conservation restriction (CR) stewardship program as part of Governor Swift's Managing for Results Initiative (MRI). DEM will work with its sister agencies to develop a CR stewardship policy, complete baseline documentation, and commence periodical monitoring of the conservation restrictions. This important work will ensure the protection of the natural resources for which the restrictions were acquired and begin to develop long-term relationships with the landowners.

Very truly yours,

Peter C. Webber  
*Commissioner*

## FISCAL YEAR 2001 PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

The following projects were completed in Fiscal Year 2001 (July 1, 2000 – June 30, 2001). With the help of our partners, 10,955 acres of land were acquired. DEM acquired most of these properties outright, known as a “fee acquisition.” However, a number of these projects protect less than fee interests, such as conservation restrictions (which essentially remove the right to develop a property). Paragraph descriptions are provided in the following pages for each one of these acquisitions.

PROJECT	TOWN	SIGNIFICANCE	SIZE/ACRES
1. Christianson	Ashburnham	Acidic bog with a host of carnivorous/rare plant species	65
2. Limburg	Cheshire	Gift shares 5,000 foot boundary with Mount Greylock SR	178
3. Hawes II	Fall River	Continued expansion of the Southeastern Mass. Bioserve	642
4. Hull	Goshen & Williamsburg	Expands recreational opportunities at D.A.R. SF	416
5. World Peace	Hadley	Protects key area on the Holyoke Range	90
6. Collins	Holyoke	Provides additional protection for Mt. Tom	198
7. Shaheen	Salisbury	Improves public access to waterfront at Salisbury Beach SR	1
8. Connors	Middleborough	Protects scenic views, trails and rare species	27
9. B&M Railroad	Adams	Extends the Ashuwillitcook Rail-Trail	8
10. Chiacchia	Ashby & Townsend	Acquisition of large inholding with extensive trail network	210
11. Tully Initiative (19 parcels)	Royalston, Orange, Warwick & Athol	Part of a multi-agency landscape protection project	2,259
12. Burke	Charlemont	Provides protection for the ridgeline and peak of Hawks Mtn.	357
13. Cormier	Chesterfield	Protects critical adjacent lands at Krug Sugarbush	26
14. Dabney	Dartmouth	Preserves undeveloped coastal habitat	84
15. Pilgrim Society	Plymouth	Transfer of the National Monument to the Forefathers	11
16. Wightman	Montague	Provides a 75-foot buffer for an existing DEM trail easement	3.4
17. Yacino	Douglas	Links two non-contiguous sections of the State Forest	32

# DEM LAND ACQUISITION STAFF

Mary Griffin *Chief Counsel*  
Irene Del Bono *Director of Land Protection*  
Christine Berry *Land Protection Specialist*  
David McGowan *Land Protection Specialist*  
Nancy Reed *Land Protection Specialist*  
Jennifer Howard *Greenways Program*  
Terry Blunt *Connecticut River Valley Action Program*  
Brenda Asegan *Realty and Finance Coordinator*  
Dolores Boogdanian *Counsel*  
Frank Hartig *Counsel*  
Nancy Mitchell *Counsel*  
Marcos Pittore *Counsel*  
Ron Washburn *Counsel*  
Barbara Black *Paralegal*



PROJECT	TOWN	SIGNIFICANCE	SIZE/ACRES
18. Mackin	Greenfield	Preserves sensitive archeological site on the CT River	41
19. Cudhea	Middleton	Provides access to Boxford State Forest from Middleton	51
20. Jordan	Washington	Gift of land abutting October Mountain State Forest	24
21. Ross	Montague	Protection of riverfront parcels along the CT River	2.3
22. Krutiak	Florida	Protects land along the Hoosac Range	323
23. Bugley	Framingham	Creates much-needed headquarters for Callahan State Park	9
24. Root	Uxbridge	Gift of land protects floodplain forest on Blackstone River	21
25. Markos	Ipswich	Acquisition of a critical inholding in Willowdale SF	40
26. Nunnemacher/Linder	Sutton	Provides a significant addition to Sutton State Forest	438
27. Sholan Farms	Leominster	Conserves the last remaining orchard in Leominster	1,685
28. Shores	Bernardston	Provides crucial habitat for large mammals	832
29. Parkkonen	Ashburnham	Completes protection of entire frontage on Lincoln Pond	94
30. Pikul	Rowley	Conserves working farm adjacent to the Great Marsh	148
31. Pemberton Park	Lawrence	Expands Pemberton Park on the Merrimack River	5
32. Appalachian Trail Conference	Egremont	Conserves viewshed of the Appalachian National Scenic Trail	9
33. PG&E	Monroe, Rowe & Shelburne	Provides significant protection for the Deerfield River	2,618
34. Klaus	Montague	Gift of land that buffers Cranberry Pond Brook	7



*Ashburnham***CHRISTIANSON PROPERTY**

65 acres • Region 3: Central

Watershed: Millers

Full fee acquisition • \$95,000

Ashburnham State Forest

The Christianson property, pursued at the same time as another DEM land acquisition project on nearby Lincoln Pond, resulted in the protection of the entire frontage of two lakes within a State Forest in the same year — a rare accomplishment. Acquisition was critical to protecting Mud Pond, a classic acidic peat bog. The bog is home to a fascinating array of plant life. A number of different carnivorous plant species inhabit the bog including pitcher plants, sundews, and horned bladderworts. The bog is home to at least one rare plant species. In 1993, the DEM Wildlands Committee approved the nomination of Mud Pond as representative natural community within the Wildlands Program.

*Cheshire***LIMBURG PROPERTY**

178 acres • Region 5: Berkshires

Watershed: Hudson

Full fee acquisition • Gift

Mt. Greylock State Reservation

On December 29, 2000, the DEM received a donation of 178 acres of land in Cheshire from Myles Limburg of Santa Barbara, California. After Mr. Limburg divided off several parcels along Lanesborough Mountain Road and Curran Road, his children, Fred Limburg of Dalton, and Karen Smith of British Columbia, Canada, asked their father to donate the remainder of land to the state. The heavily wooded property contains several swift-moving mountain streams and possesses nearly 5,000 feet of common boundary with Mt. Greylock State Reservation. The DEM intends to incorporate the woods roads and paths on the Limburg property into the trail system originating at the reservation's Visitor's Center located on Rockwell Road. Donations of this type to the Department of Environmental Management, a state entity, are tax deductible, and therefore can be claimed by Mr. Limburg in his federal income tax return.



## Freetown

### HAWES II

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642 acres • Region 1: Southeast  
Watershed: Buzzard's Bay  
Full fee acquisition • \$950,000  
Freetown – Fall River State Forest

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As the second phase of a multi-phase acquisition project that will create the Southeastern Massachusetts Bioreserve, DEM and the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife and Environmental Law Enforcement (DFWELE) acquired two parcels, totaling 642 acres, from the Hawes family on November 3, 2000. DEM and DFWELE each hold a one-half undivided interest and will co-manage the two parcels that comprise the property. The Southeastern Massachusetts Bioreserve is a major public-private partnership that will protect approximately 14,000 acres of contiguous open space and preserve the functions of a valuable ecosystem. This will be accomplished through a partnership among the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA), DEM, DFWELE, the City of Fall River, and the Trustees of Reservations (TTOR). The recently acquired parcels will add to existing Commonwealth holdings managed by DEM (Freetown – Fall River State Forest) and DFW (Acushnet Wildlife Management Area).

Phase I of this multi-phase project was completed in June 2000, when the Commonwealth acquired from the Hawes family 2,414 acres of open space located in the northeast section of the City of Fall River. In 2002, DFWELE, DEM and TTOR will acquire from the family the balance of its 3,800 acres of open space located primarily in Fall River, with smaller portions in Freetown and Dartmouth, for a total purchase price of \$14,100,000. Of this amount, the Commonwealth will contribute a total of \$9,650,000 towards the acquisition, with the balance of funds to



be paid by the Fall River Redevelopment Authority (\$2,450,000) and TTOR (\$2,000,000). TTOR will directly acquire approximately 450 acres of the Hawes land and will then convey to DEM and DFWELE a conservation restriction on that land at no additional cost to the Commonwealth. In addition, the City of Fall River will convey, also at no additional cost to the Commonwealth, a conservation restriction on approximately 4,300 acres of municipal watershed lands to ensure they are permanently protected. In exchange for the City's participation in this land protection project, DEM will transfer to the Fall River Redevelopment Authority, subject to legislative approval, a 300-acre parcel of land abutting Route 24 for development as a business park.

EOEA, DEM, DFWELE, the City of Fall River and TTOR will work together to develop a management plan for the Southeastern Massachusetts Bioreserve to preserve the area for passive public recreation, water supply protection, wildlife and forestry management.



## *Goshen and Williamsburg* **HULL PROPERTY**

416 +/- acres • Region 5: Berkshires  
Watershed: Connecticut  
Conservation Restriction • \$175,000  
D.A.R. State Forest

This conservation restriction on the 416 +/- acre Hull property was part of a larger effort involving state and municipal agencies, non-profit organizations, and Hull Forest Products to protect over 7,000 acres of working forest land in western Massachusetts. The extensive road frontage of the Hull property will remain undeveloped in an area that is beginning to see and feel the growth and expansion of nearby Northampton. DEM's purchase of a conservation restriction on this property will protect the land from development or other incompatible uses, maintain the local tax base, conserve wildlife habitat, expand recreational opportunities at the popular DAR State Forest, and allow for sustainable and sound management of the forest resources.

## *Hadley* **WORLD PEACE**

90 acres • Region 4: CT River Valley  
Watershed: Connecticut  
Full fee acquisition • \$450,000  
Holyoke Range State Park

DEM acquired this 90-acre site along the north flank of the Mt. Holyoke Range in Hadley after a developer submitted plans to build more than 40 view-site luxury homes that would have been visible from many distant points in the Connecticut River Valley. DEM, with major funding assistance from an anonymous and generous donor, as well as many others, secured the site by a consensual, or "friendly," eminent domain taking. As an indication of the level of emotion, the developer's proposal elicited, a group called "Save the Mountain" was formed to call the public's attention to the need to protect the Mt. Holyoke Range, considered one of the most scenic landscape features in Massachusetts. The site, which has been added to the Mt. Holyoke Range State Park and Skinner State Park, has trails, wetlands, and basalt rock outcropping at the top of the ridge. Besides affording outstanding views of the valley, the site is home to a state listed rare species and includes a portion of the M&M trail, a long distance hiking trail that has been nominated for federal status.



*Holyoke***COLLINS PROPERTY**

198 acres • Region 4: CT River Valley  
 Watershed: Connecticut  
 Full fee acquisition • \$570,000  
 Mt. Tom State Reservation

This 198-acre tract of heavily forested land was acquired to protect its unique qualities as part of a larger effort to protect the Mt. Tom Range. The site contains a significant geological feature known as “Little Mt. Tom,” which is a combination of basalt and shale. The property contains vernal pools, large old oaks, and fossil dinosaur footprints from the Triassic period. Naturalists view Little Tom as an ecological jewel that represents many of the natural conditions found along the more remote portions of the range, and it augments the Mt. Tom State Reservation, increasing DEM’s holdings there to more than 2,200 acres. The Mt. Tom Range overall has an amazing concentration of reptiles and amphibians — roughly 80% of all Massachusetts terrestrial herpetological species are represented at Mt. Tom and its environs.

*Salisbury***SHAHEEN PROPERTY**

1 acre • Region 2: Northeast  
 Watershed: North Coastal  
 Full fee acquisition • \$385,000  
 Salisbury Beach State Reservation

Acquisition of the Shaheen property greatly improves public access to the waterfront area at Salisbury Beach State Reservation. In August 2001, DEM demolished the existing derelict building located on the site, opening up a wonderful vista of the Atlantic Ocean. The demolition will also allow for critical dune restoration.

*Middleborough***CONNORS PROPERTY**

27 acres • Region 1: Southeast  
 Watershed: Taunton  
 Full fee acquisition • \$200,000  
 Massasoit State Park

The Connors property possesses significant natural and archeological resources. Located adjacent to another DEM property along the Taunton River, the parcel’s wetlands host populations of at least two rare species. The Connors property also protects the archeological resources located at Fort Hill. The Fort Hill area shows evidence of near continuous occupation by the Wampanoag Indians throughout the Archaic period. The river provided a transportation route for the Wampanoags as well as prime fishing and ample fresh water. Modern day paddlers can enjoy the Taunton River “Blueway,” or water trail, and a series of woodland trails cross the property offering hiking possibilities.



*Adams***B&M RAILROAD**

8 acres • Region 5: Berkshires  
 Watershed: Hudson  
 Full fee acquisition • \$220,000  
 Ashuwillticook Rail Trail

In February 2001, DEM acquired a one-mile section of former rail corridor for an extension of the planned Ashuwillticook Rail Trail. The Ashuwillticook Rail Trail is a former railroad corridor converted into a 10-foot wide paved, universally accessible trail for non-motorized uses. Construction is being done in two phases. The first five miles of trail opened in August 2001. The second phase of construction is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2002. One third of the mile acquired by DEM will be included in Phase 2 construction allowing the trail to end at a large town-owned parking area in Adams. This section of the trail will be 11 miles long when completed. DEM will continue to explore the possibility of extending the trail to North Adams.

*Ashby and Townsend***CHIACCIA PROPERTY**

210 acres • Region 3: Central  
 Watershed: Nashua  
 Full fee acquisition • \$400,000  
 Willard Brook State Forest

The 210-acre Chiacchia property abuts Willard Brook State Forest and shares nearly 11,382 feet of common boundary with the state forest. This parcel of land fits into the 2,380-acre state forest like a puzzle piece. It connects an outlying parcel of state land which had no known right-of-way, to the main block of forest and connects DEM lands to the north and south of the parcel. Combined with the existing State Forest land, the Chiacchia property will protect a large area of habitat containing mostly mature, unfragmented forest critical habitat for a variety of indigenous and migratory wildlife. These include neotropical songbirds which rely on vast, unbroken forests for breeding, nesting and raising young. The land also contains areas of steep slope with rock outcroppings and small caves, providing shelter for various mammals like bobcat, coyote, and fox. This acquisition will expand and enhance the existing DEM trail system and establish extensive new trail connections. A variety of recreational activities will be appropriate here, including hiking, mountain biking, nature study, cross-country skiing, and horse-back riding. The Ashby Land Trust played a critical role in this transaction by securing \$32,500 in vital funding.



Royalston, Orange,  
Warwick, and Athol

TULLY VALLEY PRIVATE  
FOREST LANDS INITIATIVE

2,259 acres • Region 4: CT River Valley  
Watershed: Deerfield  
Full fee acquisitions and conservation  
restrictions • \$1,616,550

The Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA) initiated the Tully Valley Private Forest Lands Initiative in order to conserve one of the largest contiguous tracts of forest land in the southern New England. The acquisition effort centered in the Tully River Valley within the towns of Royalston, Orange, Athol, and Warwick and protected more than 4,200 acres between December 2000 and July 2001.

DEM worked in collaboration with EOEA and the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, and Environmental Law Enforcement, the Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust, and other members of the North Quabbin Regional Landscape Partnership to conduct a targeted, rapid acquisition of multiple parcels in one defined area. The Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust played a central role on the negotiation and execution of the fast-paced transactions.

This acquisition project seeks to protect private forest land through the acquisition of conservation restrictions. These restrictions allow for sustainable and sound management of forestry resources and encourage long-term, professional stewardship of these resources. This region includes the largest Forest Legacy area in the state and has been recognized by the Harvard Forest and The Nature Conservancy as an area representing important forest ecology. Most of the properties protected will remain in private ownership, but cannot be developed or converted to other non-

forestry uses. Public access will be allowed on most of the parcels. The Tully project will expand areas already under state protection such as Warwick and Royalston State Forests and the Lawrence Brook and Birch Hill Wildlife Management Areas. The addition of the newly conserved properties will create a landscape-scale protected area capable of providing suitable habitat for large woodland animals like moose, bear, fisher, deer, coyote, and bobcat, as well as forest-dwelling songbirds. This project also helps protect the Tully Trail, a 20-mile loop trail connecting lands owned by federal, state, and non-profit entities. When completed, the Tully Trail will reward hikers with mountaintop vistas, cascading waterfalls, wildlife encounters, and secluded swimming holes.

TULLY RIVER VALLEY ACQUISITIONS

PROPERTY	OWNER	INTEREST	TOWN	ACRES	COST
1.	Hartshorn	CR	Royalston	200	\$100,000
2.	Anderson	CR	Royalston	52	\$45,000
3.	Adreliunas	CR	Royalston	39	\$48,000
4.	Beals	CR	Royalston	753	\$450,000
5.	Sils	CR	Royalston	42	\$100,000
6.	Michaud	CR	Royalston	14	\$21,000
7.	Parisi	CR	Royalston	16	\$18,000
8.	Graves	CR	Royalston	59	\$20,800
9.	Weiner	CR	Royalston	94	\$93,000
10.	Willis	CR	Royalston	16	\$22,500
11.	Cook	CR	Royalston	14	\$21,000
12.	Felton	Fee	Warwick	63	\$125,000
13.	Gagnon	CR	Warwick	93	\$47,000
14.	Sliva	Fee	Warwick	20	\$45,000
15.	Song	Fee	Warwick	91	\$72,000
16.	Doubleday	CR	Warwick	63	\$25,000
17.	Lecuyer	Fee	Athol	75	\$61,000
18.	Heyes	CR	Orange	525	\$257,250
19.	Kowacki	CR	Orange	30	\$45,000



## Charlemont

### BURKE PROPERTY

357 acres • Region 5: Berkshires  
Watershed: Deerfield  
Full fee acquisition • \$115,000  
Mohawk Trail State Forest

With a common boundary of over 4,500 feet, the 357-acre Burke property is a significant expansion for Mohawk Trail State Forest. Rising to the southwest of the famous “Hail to the Sunrise” statue of a Mohawk Indian along Route 2, the property will provide protection for the ridgeline and peak of Hawks Mountain. Sweeping views of the Deerfield River and surrounding farmlands can be seen from the extensive network of trails on the property. Hardwoods such as black birch, ash, and sugar maple are found on the property. Observed songbirds include a pileated woodpecker, towhee, grouse, kingbird, wood duck and great crested flycatcher. This acquisition was a joint venture with the Department of Food and Agriculture (DFA) which acquired an APR on the adjoining lowland agricultural land that has frontage on the Deerfield River.

## Chesterfield

### CORMIER PROPERTY

26 acres • Region 5: Berkshires  
Watershed: Westfield  
Full fee acquisition • \$10,000  
Krug Sugarbush

The 26-acre Cormier tract in Chesterfield was acquired to add valuable wooded acreage to DEM’s Krug Sugarbush property. The acquisition protects nearly half a mile of shoreline along the Dead Branch, a significant, unspoiled tributary of the Westfield River, a federally designated Wild and Scenic River. The site links two previously unconnected DEM parcels to establish a protective shoreline corridor that provides habitats for several rare species. A floating vegetative mat on Long Pond, a natural impoundment of the Dead Branch, includes pitcher plants and other plants characteristic of an acid bog. These amenities add diversity to the 100-acre Krug Sugarbush facility, where each year volunteers demonstrate maple sugaring for the public. The Cormier acquisition was aided by the contributions of two area land trusts — the Hill Town Land Trust and the Valley Land Fund, which each contributed \$5,000 toward the overall cost of the land.

*Dartmouth***DABNEY PROPERTY**

84 acres • Region 1: Southeast  
 Watershed: Buzzard's Bay  
 Conservation Restriction • \$400,000  
 Horseneck Beach State Reservation

Formerly known as the Dabney property and now owned by the Massachusetts Audubon Society (MAS), the \$400,000 purchase price for the restriction was secured from the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) via the Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM). DEM and MAS, each holding its separate interests in the property, considered the acquisition key to protecting the area around Allen's Pond, one of the largest, most significant, unprotected coastal ecosystems remaining in Massachusetts. Protection of this property helps ensure the restoration and management of prime grassland bird habitat, prevents future development of the property, provides additional protection for the salt pond/salt marsh system, protects shorebird nesting and foraging habitats on the barrier beach, and promotes successful future protection of the entire pond and watershed. This acquisition will allow for public access on a variety of coastal and upland habitats.

*Plymouth***PILGRIM SOCIETY**

11 acres • Region 1: Southeast  
 Watershed: South Coastal  
 Full fee acquisition • Gift  
 Pilgrim Memorial State Park

Totalling approximately 11 acres, this parcel is the home of the National Monument to the Forefathers and surrounding park land. Completed in 1888, this majestic, 81-foot granite statue stands as a tribute to our founding pilgrim forefathers. Located on Monument Hill, this historic landmark is just a short distance from DEM's Pilgrim Memorial State Park, the site of Plymouth Rock. The Pilgrim Society, which has been the curators for the monument since the 1800's, donated this site to DEM. The memorial is now protected under the stewardship of the Commonwealth.





*Montague***WIGHTMAN PROPERTY**

3.4 acres • Region 4: CT River Valley  
 Watershed: Connecticut  
 Conservation Restriction • Gift  
 CT River Greenway State Park

This 3.4-acre conservation restriction provides a 75-foot buffer for an existing DEM — held trail easement. The existing trail easement is part of a larger greenway protection effort to link Wendell State Forest to Mt. Toby State Reservation. Mark Wightman and Larry LeClaire donated this CR as part of a local special building permit requirement.

*Douglas***YACINO PROPERTY**

32 acres • Region 3: Central  
 Watershed: Blackstone  
 Full fee acquisition • \$203,500  
 Douglas State Forest

This 32-acre parcel was acquired as an addition to Douglas State Forest. Acquisition of this property links unconnected sections of the State Forest, creating a contiguous forest of over 4,500 acres. This strategic

acquisition protects approximately 2,500 feet of road frontage from commercial development, and is critical to preserving the integrity and improving management of this area of the State Forest. Public access to the Forest directly off Route 16 is now possible. In addition, this property provides habitat for at least two rare species.

*Greenfield***MACKIN PROPERTY**

41 acres • Region 4: CT River Valley  
 Watershed: Connecticut  
 Conservation Restriction • \$350,000  
 CT River Greenway State Park

This 41-acre property is part of the “Greenfield Narrows” located along the Connecticut River. The parcel is part of a distinctive Triassic lowland gorge approximately three miles in length, which is of both statewide and national significance. Exemplary geologic formations such as lava flows and glacial potholes are located on the property. Prehistoric artifacts include several dinosaur footprints. Tenthousand year old relics and burial sites from a Native American village have earned the property a listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The property is located across the river from DEM’s Great Falls Discovery Center and could be linked via a trail system currently being developed with DEM and local towns. The property was purchased by the Friends of the Wissantinnewag, which then sold a portion of the riverfront acreage to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and this conservation restriction to DEM.



## Middleton

### CUDHEA PROPERTY

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51 acres • Region 2: Northeast  
Watershed: Ipswich  
Full fee acquisition • \$168,000  
Boxford State Forest

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This strategic parcel sits just south of Boxford State Forest. It lies within the vast holdings of Richardson Farms, a local dairy operation, which has started to sell off land for residential subdivision. By securing this 51-acre parcel, it limits the development possibilities along lightly-settled North Liberty Street. A number of trails and old logging roads criss-cross the property and lead to DEM and Essex County Greenbelt Association lands to the north. This acquisition provides access to the state forest from the Town of Middleton. DEM partnered with the town when this project was in jeopardy of failing. The town contributed \$32,000 to this transaction and will hold a conservation restriction on the land.

## Washington

### JORDAN PROPERTY

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24 acres • Region 5: Berkshires  
Watershed: Westfield  
Full fee acquisition • Gift  
October Mountain State Forest

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Located in the Town of Washington, this gift of 24 acres protects both uplands and wetlands immediately adjacent to October Mountain State Forest. The property abuts the State Forest on two sides with a shared boundary of approximately 2,400 feet. An extensive wetland complex supports many wetland species. This property provides good habitat diversity — from ridgetops to wetlands. This gift is a charitable contribution that is also tax deductible for the Jordans.



## Montague

### ROSS PROPERTY

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2.3 acres • Region 4: CT River Valley  
Watershed: Connecticut  
Conservation Restriction • \$5,000  
CT River Greenway State Park

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Located in the Town of Montague, the 2.3-acre Ross parcel is an addition to the Connecticut River Greenway State Park. With 560 feet of frontage on the Connecticut River, this property is a small, flat farm field with a wooded river edge community that offers added protection to the Connecticut River Water Trail. This acquisition also provides protection for Cranberry Brook Pond and one federally endangered species. Protection of this property was made possible through an Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) grant awarded to accomplish state scenic highway program initiatives. The total consideration paid for this conservation restriction was \$55,000, with \$50,000 in ISTEA funding and \$5,000 in DEM funding.



## *Florida*

### **KRUTIAK PROPERTY**

323 acres • Region 5: Berkshires  
Watershed: Deerfield  
Full fee acquisition • \$130,000  
Mohawk Trail State Forest

Acquisition of the Krutiak property protects much of the northerly extent of the Hoosac Range up to the Vermont border. This remote and mostly roadless portion of Massachusetts then connects to nearly 200,000 acres of the southern management unit of the Green Mountain National Forest. A jeep trail at the northern portion of the Krutiak land crosses private land and then enters the GMNF. Coordination with GMNF staff could result in long distance trail connections. Following existing logging roads and trails, a hiker can reach a plateau on the property with seasonal views of Mt. Greylock. With nominal clearing, one or more wilderness camp sites could be created. In addition to the view of Mt. Greylock, the easterly view from Route 8 in Clarksburg towards the Hoosac Range is lovely. The remote woodlands provide good habitat for bear, moose, fisher, bobcat, deer, and, possibly, catamount.

## *Framingham*

### **BUGLEY PROPERTY**

9 acres • Region 3: Central  
Watershed: SuAsCo  
Full fee acquisition • \$495,000  
Callahan State Park

Located in the geographic center of Callahan State Park, this 9-acre property will now serve as the new staff headquarters for this facility. The property has an existing house and barn that will provide greatly needed headquarter/office space for Callahan State Park staff. Acquisition of this property was identified in the Greater Callahan Open Space and Greenway Plan as a priority acquisition and was recommended in the Draft Callahan State Park Management Plan to help ensure that public safety and resource protection concerns are addressed at this heavily used facility. In addition, this property is now part of a larger network of conservation lands in the area owned by DEM, the Metropolitan District Commission, the Sudbury Valley Trustees, the City of Marlborough, and the Towns of Framingham and Sudbury.

## *Uxbridge*

### **ROOT PROPERTY**

21 acres • Region 3: Central  
Watershed: Blackstone  
Full fee acquisition • Gift  
Blackstone River and Canal Heritage  
State Park

This 21-acre parcel was the open space component of the subdivision of the Charles Root Estate. This gift of land consists of floodplain forest along the Blackstone River consisting of predominantly red maple, silver maple, and sycamore trees. The property lies across the river from historic Stanley Woolen Mill and will be incorporated into the Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park.

*Ipswich***MARKOS PROPERTY**

40 acres • Region 2: Northeast  
 Watershed: Ipswich  
 Full fee acquisition • \$1,000,000  
 Willowdale State Forest

DEM acquired this critical 40-acre inholding in the heart of Willowdale State Forest with the assistance of many friends. The property, formerly owned by Ipswich Woods, LLC, sits in the middle of 2,400 acres of contiguous state forests and parks land, and had been the site of a proposed 28-home subdivision. Development of the parcel would have compromised the integrity of the so-called "Pine Swamp" tract within Willowdale State Forest that was donated to the DEM by noted Boston lawyer Bradley Palmer in 1937 as a wildlife sanctuary. Instead, the community-wide effort preserves Gravelly Brook, a pristine trout stream, interior forest habitat, and the intersection of many of the facility's most popular recreational trails. DEM, acting in partnership with several parties, spent \$1 million as its share of the \$2.5 million project. Other partners include the Essex County Greenbelt Association, \$600,000; the Massachusetts Legislature (through DEM), \$400,000; the Town of Ipswich, \$400,000; and the Friends of Willowdale, \$100,000. Also, the neighboring Town of Topsfield, acknowledging the benefits it will receive from protection of this parcel, has pledged to reimburse the Town of Ipswich in the amount of \$100,000, subject to final approval at Town Meeting. Concerned individuals, including local school children, generously offered contributions ranging from a few dollars to thousands of dollars. DEM will jointly hold an undivided partial fee interest in the land with the two towns.

*Sutton***NUNNEMACHER/LINDER PROPERTY**

438 acres • Region 3: Central  
 Watershed: Blackstone  
 Full fee acquisition • \$325,000  
 Sutton State Forest

The 438-acre Nunnemacher and Linder properties are a significant addition to the 1,000-acre Sutton State Forest. Comprised primarily of white pine, beech, oak and hemlock stands, this property provides extensive wildlife habitat for numerous mammals and serves as an important migratory route for several bird species. Scattered throughout the parcels are large glacial erratics, ridges, ledge outcroppings, and 19th century charcoal pits. Acquisition of these parcels also provides additional watershed protection for a public water supply. These properties are an important link in the proposed Lake Manchaug Greenway; an ambitious undertaking that, if completed, will link Sutton State Forest to Douglas State Forest.



*Leominster***SHOLAN FARMS**

1,685 acres • Region 3: Central  
Watershed: Nashua  
Conservation Restriction • \$1,083,000  
Leominster State Park

DEM and MA Department of Food and Agriculture (DFA) contributed a total of \$1.58 million to help the City of Leominster, also known as the “the birthplace of Johnny Appleseed,” protect Sholan Farms. It is not only the last remaining apple orchard in Leominster; the farm is also one of the last remaining undeveloped areas in the City. DEM and DFA acquired a joint APR-CR on the 168-acre property, which contains a 45-acre apple orchard and 120 acres of woodland. Sholan Farms is now being operated by the City as a pick-your-own orchard. As part of the agreement, the City of Leominster will donate a CR to DEM on an additional 1,518 acres of City watershed land and will allow public access on those parcels.

*Bernardston***SHORES PROPERTY**

832 acres • Region 4: CT River  
Greenway State Park  
Watershed: Connecticut  
Conservation Restriction • \$456,500  
CT River Greenway State Park

DEM, in partnership with Norcross Wildlife Foundation of Monson, acquired this conservation restriction on 832 acres from William and Deane Shores. Significantly, this acquisition establishes a corridor of conservation land from the 1,300-acre Roaring Brook State Wildlife Management Area in Vernon, Vermont, to DEM's Northfield State Forest and DFW's Satan's Kingdom Wildlife Management Area in Bernardston and Northfield, MA. The largely forested Shores parcel boasts rare species, scenic views and multiple stream corridors. A significant portion of the property forms the headwaters of the Falls River containing unusual Black Gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*) swamps, relics that date back to the ice age. The swamps, along with several ponds, two certified vernal pools, a 40-acre open hay field and multi-aged hardwood/softwood forest, support an abundance of wildlife including moose, bear, fisher, bobcat, and reported sightings of Eastern mountain lion. An extensive network of woods roads allow ample possibilities for hiking trails, while a large clearing on top of East Mountain provides long distance views of neighboring Vermont.





## Ashburnham

### PARKKONEN PROPERTY

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94 acres • Region 3: Central

Watershed: Nashua

Full fee acquisition • \$160,000

Ashburnham State Forest

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This 94-acre addition to Ashburnham State Forest completes protection of the entire shoreline of Lincoln Pond, a great pond. The pond is a relatively pristine acidic shrub fen with significant species diversity, around which a developer had obtained approval for a 21 lot subdivision. Protection of the pond will also provide water resource protection for the town reservoir and opportunities for freshwater recreation. Trails traversing the property provide stunning views overlooking Lincoln Pond, Little Watatic Mountain, and Blueberry Hill. The property consists primarily of mature forest with stands of hemlock, white pine, red oak, sugar maple, American beech, and striped maple. Other plant species include pitcher plants, sundews, cottongrass, bog laurel, white beaked sedge, and lady slippers. In addition, Lincoln Pond is central to a large core area in the Nashua River watershed that provides habitat for large mammals such as black bear and moose. This property, in conjunction with the acquisition of the Christianson property (described earlier) on nearby Mud Pond, protects the entire frontage of two lakes at Ashburnham State Forest.



## Rowley

### PIKUL PROPERTY

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148 acres • Region 2: Northeast

Watershed: Parker

Full fee acquisition • \$200,000

Georgetown – Rowley State Forest

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Now protected through an agricultural preservation restriction/conservation restriction, this 148-acre property in Rowley was one of the last remaining working dairy farms in Essex County. The farm is adjacent to hundreds of acres of protected land within the Parker River/Essex Bay Area Critical Environmental Concern and the Great Marsh focus area as designated by the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs. This APR/CR is jointly held by DEM, the Department of Food and Agriculture (DFA), and the Town of Rowley, each entity providing \$200,000, \$800,000, and \$150,000, respectively. In addition, the Massachusetts Audubon Society and the Essex County Greenbelt Association each contributed \$50,000 towards the purchase price.



## *Egremont*

### **APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONFERENCE**

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9 acres • Region 5: Berkshires  
Watershed: Housatonic  
Conservation Restriction • \$30,000  
Appalachian National Scenic Trail

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Working in partnership with the Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC) Land Trust, DEM acquired a conservation restriction on the former Edwards property with the goal of conserving the viewshed of the Appalachian National Scenic Trail (AT). The 9-acre property abuts the AT corridor owned by the National Park Service, and is part of a growing complex of land being conserved by the ATC Land Trust and the Egremont Land Trust to protect the local scenic landscape. With the trail corridor itself fully secured, efforts have moved toward widening the corridor to buffer the trail, and to protect the natural landscapes visible from the trail that hikers often take for granted. DEM contributed \$30,000 toward the acquisition of a CR which it now co-holds with the Berkshire Natural Resources Council (BRNC). The entire restricted property may be sold to a private individual who can create one discreet single family dwelling within a defined building envelope. (If ATC Land Trust does not find a buyer for the property, the CR allows the Land Trust to develop a small, unpaved parking area on the property for members of the public to access the AT.)

## *Lawrence*

### **PEMBERTON PARK**

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5 acres • Region 2: Northeast  
Watershed: Merrimack  
Full fee acquisition • \$126,400  
Lawrence Heritage State Park

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DEM extended the popular Pemberton Park along the Merrimack River in Lawrence by purchasing riverfront strips from three abutting property owners. With the acquisition, a trail will be extended from the existing park to a viewing platform of historic Great Stone Dam. DEM also transferred \$2.25 million to the City of Lawrence for use towards the park's development. Future plans for the park include landscaping and the creation of bike paths and foot trails along the river.

*Monroe, Rowe, Florida,  
Charlemont, Buckland, Conway,  
Shelburne and Deerfield*

## PG&E

2,618 acres • Region 4: CT River  
Greenway State Park  
Watershed: Deerfield  
Conservation Restriction • Gift  
Mohawk Trail State Forest

After several years of negotiation over the re-licensing of hydropower facilities on and along the Deerfield River, a settlement agreement was reached between environmental groups and the New England Power Company (now USGen New England) which included a grant of Conservation Restrictions to DEM along nearly 16 miles of the river. As a result, 1,362 acres in the towns of Monroe, Rowe, Florida, Charlemont, Buckland, Shelburne, Conway, and Deerfield are protected in perpetuity against future subdivision, commercial or residential development and are open for public access. No new dams can be constructed, and billboards, communications towers, mining or drilling are banned. 1,256 acres of the USGen property is encumbered by a restriction with the same terms, but for a period of twenty years. It is hoped that any future re-licensing application by USGen will include conversion of this term CR to a perpetual restriction.

The Deerfield River, which begins in Vermont and enters the Connecticut River in Deerfield, MA, offers scenic views and renowned recreational opportunities including: bass and trout fishing, canoeing, rafting, and Olympic-quality kayaking. Under the Settlement Agreement, USGen will endow an Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund to finance watershed conservation, low impact recreational and educational projects and facilities; the funds would be available as grants to non-profit organizations, educational institutions, and state agencies. This endowment is

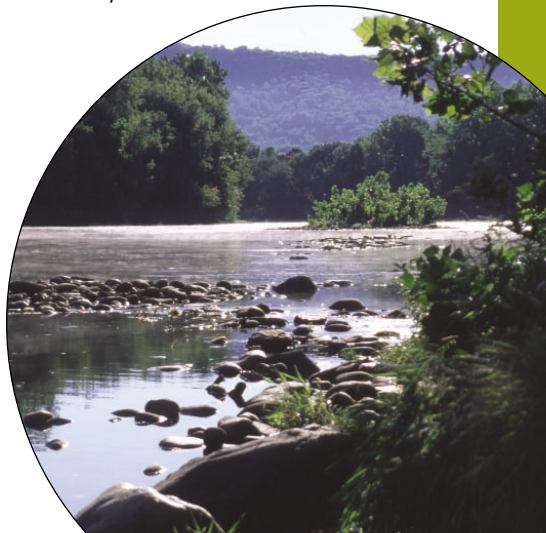
in addition to a number of improvement projects to be undertaken and paid for directly by USGen, and a separate fund provided by USGen for monitoring and enforcement of the terms of the CRs. The DEM restriction bridges a gap in protection between the river and adjacent DEM Forests and Parks, such as Monroe State Forest, known for its stands of old growth timber.

### Montague

## KLAUS PROPERTY

7 acres • Region 4: CT River Greenway  
State Park  
Watershed: Connecticut  
Full fee acquisition • Gift  
CT River Greenway State Park

Located in Sunderland, this 7-acre gift provides a buffer to Cranberry Pond Brook and enhances trail access along the stream. The property connects Cranberry Pond to other recent acquisitions aimed at creating a greenway between Mt. Toby and other state lands. Although narrow, this sliver of land provides good wildlife habitat and a buffer strip along an excellent brook trout fishery. This property is located in the Connecticut River Valley EOE focus area and will be managed as part of the Connecticut River Greenway State Park.



## THE CONSERVATION TRUST

The Department of Environmental Management is proud of its role as steward of some of the most scenic natural resources in the Commonwealth. We are equally proud of the land we have acquired for conservation and recreation purposes that contributed to reaching the 200,000 acre goal.

Increased cost of land acquisition and competing demands on state resources challenge us as we strive to continue to acquire the many additional properties that need our protection. We welcome you to join us and help us to reach our next conservation milestone.

Your contribution to DEM's Conservation Trust will help us attain our goal of acquiring ecologically critical parcels of land and promote recreational opportunities to the public. Donations are also needed for the perpetual care and stewardship of these valuable properties.

The Conservation Trust was established in 1990 by the Massachusetts General Court as a way for citizens to contribute to the recreational and conservation interests of the Commonwealth. Tax-deductible contributions can also be designated for particular parks or programs of the donor's choice.

**For more information on how you, too, can be a steward of the Commonwealth's lands through a contribution to the Conservation Trust, contact Sharon Hoey at 617.626.1267.**



This report was primarily produced by the Department of Environmental Management Land Acquisition Staff: Christine Berry, Terry Blunt, Irene Del Bono, Jennifer Howard, David McGowan and Nancy Reed.  
**[www.state.ma.us/dem/programs/landacq](http://www.state.ma.us/dem/programs/landacq)**

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For general information regarding the DEM Land Acquisition and Protection Program, please call 617.626.1315 or log onto our web site at [www.state.ma.us/dem/programs/landacq](http://www.state.ma.us/dem/programs/landacq)